

MetroWest AHO

NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2017

RESIGNATIONS

David Harrington, MD – effective 7-21-17, OB/GYN

ADULT PCPs AND SPECIALISTS MEETING

June 15th – MacPherson Hall – Framingham

ADVANCED CARE PRACTITIONERS (ACP's)

FORM ATTACHED

NEQCA is now collecting information on ACPs. If you have any non-physician providers (i.e., NP; PA, or LICSW) in your practices you will be asked to provide and submit a form which is attached to this Newsletter with pertinent information regarding these individuals. If you have an ACP in your office please return this form to Adorine Sharron ASAP at adorine.sharron@mwmc.com or Fax 508.650.7478.

USE OF IMAGING STUDIES FOR LOW BACK PAIN (LBP) BCBS HMO PRODUCT. AGES 18-50

This is a measure in our BCBS HMO contract for which our PCPs are accountable. Since some of our specialists also see and treat patients for low back pain, I am taking this opportunity to highlight and explain the measure.

LBP Measure is as follows: Patient 18-50 years of age diagnosed with lower back pain.

(28 days) – No plain x-ray, CT scan or MRI. Imaging OK after (29+ days) as most people with LBP feel better in about a month whether they receive an imaging test or not.

Exclusions: **Cancer; IVDU, Recent Trauma, Neurological Impairment.**

Use the following codes if patients NEED an x-ray so they do not fall into the measure.

M62.830	Back Spasm
M47.895	Thoracolumbar Spondylosis
M54.16	Radiculopathy, Lumbar (exclusion code)
M80 Category	Osteoporosis with Current Pathological Fracture

MIPS REPORTING FOR ACO PARTICIPANT

If you are a Participant of our ACO - TACO (Total Accountable Care Organization) previously known as Collaborative Health ACO, the ACO will be responsible for 2 of the 4 MIPS categories on behalf of all its Participants. The 2 categories are (1) Quality and (2) Practice Improvement Activities. In 2017 the Cost category will not be scored. The practice is responsible for doing its own reporting for the Advancing Care Information category (i.e. the "Meaningful Use" category). In short, if your practice belongs to the ACO, we will take care of most of your MIPS requirements. However, you are responsible for reporting Meaningful Use which is now called Advancing Care Information.

If any of your providers bill CMS through another TIN (Tax ID number), then he/she is responsible for reporting all 4 MIPS categories for that additional billing TIN.

RELIANT MEDICAL GROUP/SOUTHBOROUGH MEDICAL GROUP (RMG/SMG) FALLON ACO PRODUCT AMENDMENT ENTITLED FALLON 365 CARE, WHICH WOULD APPLY TO SPECIALISTS ONLY.

We recently signed an amendment with Fallon Health Plan called Fallon 365 Care which applies to our Specialists. This is a Mass Health ACO product between Fallon Health and Reliant/Southborough Medical Group (RMG/SMG). Fallon will pay **100% of Medicaid** when seeing patients from RMG/SMG. This is an opt in agreement and **would allow you to see patients from RMG/SMG who are referred to you by one of their PCPs.**

METROWEST MRI

Effective June 1st BCBS made changes to high technology radiology prior authorization which has been expanded to commercial PPO and HMO members. If you are not already aware, MetroWest MRI has taken on the leg work of obtaining the prior authorization for your members. Online ordering will be available - this will help cut back on time spent on the phone. If you have any questions regarding these services contact Mike Pereira, Account Executive @ mpereira@allianceradiology-us.com or contact him directly @ 774-244-6632. MetroWest MRI is the area's low cost provider which will save patients on their copays while using the latest MRI technology - a 3 Tesla machine. Open 7 days a week and same day appointments.